

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 4-6, 10, 16, 18, 21, 22 and 32 have been amended. Claims 19 and 20 have been cancelled. Claims 4-6, 10, 16, 18, 21, 22 and 32 are pending and under consideration.

PROPOSED EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

On August 7, 2007, the Examiner kindly forwarded proposed changes that would place the present application in a condition for allowance. The present amendment incorporates all of the Examiner's suggested changes. In addition, claims 18 and 22 were amended to overcome the objection (claim 22) and indefiniteness rejection (claim 18) in the present Office Action.

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the time and consideration put forth by the Examiner in the present application.

CLAIM OBJECTION

Claim 22 was objected to because of an informality. Appropriate correction has been made to claim 22 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Specifically, the relevant portion of claim 22 has been amended to recite: "electronically reading information stored within the smart card."

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 112

Claims 18 and 32 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 18 has been amended to recite: "turning the display of the computer system display off based on the authentication result." In view of the foregoing amendment, it is respectfully submitted that claim 18 is defined in its present form. Claim 32 also recites that "the display of the computer system display turns off based upon the authentication result."

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS -- 103

Claims 4, 5, 10, 16 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilich et al. (US 5,877,483) in view of Hirano et al. (US 5,553,277).

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilich et al. (US 5,877,483) in view of Hirano et al. (US 5,553,277) and further in view of Wang (US 6,128,744).

As discussed above, claims 4-6, 10, 16, 18, 21 and 32 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions and it is respectfully submitted that in their present form, claims 4-6, 10, 16, 18, 21, 22 and 32 patentably distinguish over the relied upon prior art.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is requested.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that claim 22 has been allowed.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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